REMARKS

Independent claim 50 has been amended to recite that, according to the claimed method, the administered polypeptide comprises the S1, S2, S3, S4, and S5 subunits of pertussis toxin "having the same arrangement and configuration as that present in the natural pertussis toxin." Support is found in paragraph **[68]** on page 13 of the substitute specification filed January 29, 2004.

The Rejections under 35 U.S.C. § 112, ¶ 1 (Written Description)

Claims 50 and 53 have been rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 112, ¶ 1 as not described. Applicants respectfully traverse this rejection, at least insofar as it applies to amended claims 50 and 53.

The Office Action on page 4 acknowledges that the specification discloses peptides having modified S1 subunits of pertussis toxin and S2, S3, S4, and S5 subunits with the same arrangement and configuration present in the natural pertussis toxin. In the interest of advancing prosecution, the pending claims have been amended to recite this subject matter.

Reconsideration and withdrawal of this rejection are respectfully requested.

CONCLUSION

In view of the above amendments and remarks, claims 50 and 53 are believed to be in condition for allowance. Acknowledgement of the same is respectfully requested. This response is believed to completely address all of the substantive issues raised in the Office Action dated December 7, 2007.

Please continue to direct all correspondence in this application to Novartis Vaccines and Diagnostics, Inc. (formerly Chiron Corporation), at the address provided for Customer No. 27476.

Respectfully submitted,
BANNER & WITCOFF, LTD.

Date: April 7, 2008

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